

## Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

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FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1827

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

CINCPAC

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SOPN PINT KS

SUBJ: PRESIDENT PAK'S REMARKS AT DEFENSE MINISTRY, 1/28/77

SUMMARY: ON JANUARY 29, KOREAN PRESS CARRIED LONG EXCERPTS FROM PRESIDENT PAK'S REMARKS AT HIS ANNUAL REVIEW OF DEFENSE MINISTRY. THOUGH GIVING ROK-U.S. MILITARY ALLIANCE ITS DUE, PAK USED OCCASION TO STRESS IMPORTANCE OF INDEPENDENT DEFENSE AND SELF-CONFIDENCE. END SUMMARY.

1. ON JANUARY 29, MORNING KOREAN VERNACULAR NEWSPAPERS GAVE HEADLINE, TOP COVERAGE TO PRESIDENT PAK'S REMARKS JANUARY 28 ON OCCASION OF HIS NEW YEAR'S ADMINISTRATIVE INSPECTION OF MINISTRY OF NATIONAL DEFENSE (MND). HEADLINES REPORTED PAK'S STATEMENT THAT, BY 1980, ROK WILL PRODUCE DOMESTICALLY AND IN QUANTITY ALL WEAPONS, WITH EXCEPTION OF NUCLEAR ARMS AND FIGHTER AIRCRAFT. STORIES QUOTED PAK AS SAYING, "WE WILL NOT DEVELOP NUCLEAR (ARMS) AND WILL ALSO DELAY FOR A TIME THE DEVELOPMENT OF FIGHTERS." REMARKS ON OTHER TOPICS RAN AS FOLLOWS.

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2. INDEPENDENT DEFENSE: PAK DEFINED IT AS FOLLOWS: "INDEPENDENT DEFENSE' (CHAJU KUKPANG), AS THE GOVERNMENT HAS ALREADY MADE CLEAR, MEANS MILITARY STRENGTH SUCH THAT, IF WE FACE THE NORTHERN PUPPETS ONE TO ONE, WE CAN DEFEAT THEM, WITHOUT AID FROM OTHERS." PAK NOTED THAT "THE BASIC FIELDS OF OUR DEFENSE INDUSTRIES WILL BE GENERALLY LAID OUT BY THE END OF NEXT

YEAR" AND, AT THE END OF 1980, "OUR INDEPENDENT DEFENSE WILL BE COMPLETED FOR A TIME." COMPARING ROK MILITARILY WITH NORTH KOREA (NK), PAK SAID, "ON THE BASIS OF A SUMMARY OF SEVERAL TYPES OF INTELLIGENCE AND SITUATIONS, WE ARE MUTUALLY AT ALMOST THE SAME LEVEL, AND WE NOW HAVE COME TO THE STAGE IN WHICH WE WILL SURPASS THEM." PAK, NOTING THE "SURPRISINGLY RAPID GROWTH OF OUR NATIONAL DEFENSE ABILITY IN THE LAST 2 OR 3 YEARS," SAID, "IN THE FIRST HALF OF THIS YEAR, THE SMALL AMOUNT OF GRANT MILITARY AID COMING FROM THE UNITED STATES WILL COMPLETELY END AND WE WILL TAKE OVER BY OURSELVES THE TASK OF MAINTAINING OUR MILITARY AND DEVELOPING AND STRENGTHENING OUR EQUIPMENT THROUGH OUR OWN EFFORTS."

3. NORTH KOREA: PAK REQUESTED INCREASED EFFORTS TO DEVELOP AS RAPIDLY AS POSSIBLE MILITARY STRENGTH OVERWHELMINGLY SUPERIOR TO THAT OF THE NK COMMUNISTS AND CONTINUED, "IN THIS WAY, IF WE CONTINUE FOR SEVERAL MORE YEARS, THE NK COMMUNISTS WILL NOT BE ABLE, FOR EMBARRASSMENT, TO BABBLE ABOUT 'COMMUNIZATION OF THE SOUTH' OR 'LIBERATION,' AND THE VOICES OF CERTAIN FOREIGN PERSONAGES WHO DO NOT KNOW OUR TRUE SITUATION, SAYING THIS AND THAT, WILL GRADUALLY DISAPPEAR."

4. U.S. TROOPS: PAK SAID, "IF WE ARE INVADED BY THE NORTH, WE WILL BE AUTOMATICALLY SUPPORTED IN VIEW OF OUR MILITARY ALLIANCE WITH OUR ALLY, THE U.S., AND THE PRESENCE OF THE U.S. TROOPS IN KOREA BUT, EVEN IGNORING THIS CALCULATION, WE MUST BE CAPABLE OF CRUSHING ANY INVADER BY OUR OWN MIGHT... HERE I TAKE PRIDE IN THE FACT THAT ALL PREPARATIONS ARE GOING ON AS SCHEDULED TO SMASH ANY NK ATTACK WITHOUT THE HELP OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OTHERS." PAK THEN NOTED THAT SUPPORT FROM ALLIES IS NECESSARY FOR THE DEFENSE OF ANY COUNTRY TODAY, "INCLUDING SUCH MAJOR POWERS AS THE U.S. AND SOVIET UNION."

5. SELF-CONFIDENCE: "WHAT IS MOST IMPORTANT HERE IS TO HAVE CONFIDENCE THAT OUR COUNTRY CAN DEFEND ITSELF WITH OUR OWN STRENGTH," PAK SAID. RECALLING THAT "OUR ANCESTORS IN THE KORYO DYNASTY DID NOT SURRENDER TO THE MONGOL RULE OF 40 YEARS," HE SAID, "IN TODAY'S INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY, WITH THE AWAKENING OF THE CITIZENS' CONSCIOUSNESS AND THE GREATNESS OF THE NATION'S STRENGTH, THIS CONFIDENCE IS EVEN MORE IMPORTANT. WHAT REASON I THERE THAT WE, WHO DO NOT ATTACK OTHERS, SHOULD BE TRAMPLED? WE MUST AVOID SELF-CONCEIT, BUT MUST FIRMLY MAINTAIN SELF-CONFIDENCE."

6. FULL TEXT TO FOLLOW, ALONG WITH ANY BACKGROUND COMMENT WE OBTAIN IN COMING FEW DAYS.  
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## Message Attributes

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**TAGS:** SOPN, PINT, KS, (PAK CHONG-HUI)  
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Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009